

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 JERUSA 02126 031556Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /026 W
-----076122 031602Z /47

Z O 031512Z AUG 78
FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 1453
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT FLASH
USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 2713
INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T JERUSALEM 2126

EXDIS

FROM AMBASSADOR LEWIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MILI, PORG, UNSC, LE, IS

SUBJ: SOUTH LEBANON - HADDAD'S DEMANDS AND WEIZMAN'S RESPONSE

REF: A. BEIRUT 4474; B. TEL AVIV 9877; C. JERUSALEM 2104

1. JUST AS PARKER'S REPORT ON BOUTROS' REACTIONS TO HADDAD'S DEMANDS (REF A) WAS HANDED TO ME AT 1555, AUGUST 3, WEIZMAN TELEPHONED URGENTLY. HE SAID THAT HADDAD WAS EXTREMELY UPSET. HE ASKED WHETHER THERE WAS SOME WAY WE COULD GET BEIRUT TO RE-INSTATE HIM IN HIS COMMAND IN ORDER TO MAKE IT POSSIBLE TO GET HIM TO FACILITATE THE LAF MOVEMENT TO TIMNIN.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 JERUSA 02126 031556Z

2. I SAID THAT SO FAR AS I COULD TELL, THIS WAS TOTALLY OUT OF THE QUESTION. THE BEST WE COULD HOPE FOR WAS A GOL AGREEMENT TO SET ASIDE THE HADDAD PROBLEM FOR THE TIME BEING, PERHAPS THE SORT OF TACIT "POSTPONEMENT" OF HIS SITUATION SUGGESTED BY TEILA TO ME EARLIER TODAY (REF B). TO UNDERSCORE THIS JUDGMENT, AS PARKER HAD SUGGESTED IN HIS LAST MESSAGE BE DONE, I THEN READ THE WEIZMAN MOST OF THE TEXT OF REF A. THIS DRA-

MATIZED FOR WEIZMAN THE PROBLEM IN BEIRUT AS NOTHING ELSE COULD.

3. THEN ENSUED A LENGTHY AND EXTREMELY EMOTIONAL PITCH BY WEIZMAN ABOUT THE WAY IN WHICH HADDAD HAD BEEN LEFT TO FEND FOR HIMSELF FOR OVER TWO YEARS BY BEIRUT, DEPENDENT ONLY ON THE ISRAELIS, AND THAT I WAS NOW TELLING HIM THAT HE HAD TO "SELL HADDAD OUT." BEYOND THIS MORAL QUESTION, WHICH WEIZMAN STRESSED WAS VERY IMPORTANT NOT ONLY FOR HIM BUT FOR HIS COLLEAGUES, THERE IS THE SECURITY IMPLICATION OF WHAT BEIRUT OBVIOUSLY PLANS TO DO. HE SAID THAT IF HADDAD WERE FORCED TO ACCEPT THIS POSITION, HE WOULD "PICK UP AND LEAVE," THE ENCLAVES WOULD THEN COLLAPSE, AND IN VERY SHORT ORDER THE FATAH WOULD AGAIN BE INFILTRATING CLOSE TO THE ISRAELI BORDER AND PREPARING FOR CLOSE-BORDER OPERATIONS. HE MADE CLEAR THAT HE HAD LITTLE FAITH IN UNIFIL TO KEEP THE PALESTINIAN INFILTRATORS AWAY; HIS FAITH WAS RATHER IN HADDAD'S COMMAND OF THE ENCLAVES.

4. I THEN AGAIN WENT SOMEWHAT BRUTALLY OVER THE SAME GROUND I HAD COVERED LAST NIGHT WITH WEIZMAN, BEGIN, DAYAN AND YADIN (REF C), SAYING THAT IT WAS IMPORTANT FOR WEIZMAN TO CONCENTRATE ON ISRAEL'S OVERALL INTERESTS FOR THE FUTURE, RATHER THAN THE QUESTION OF HADDAD PER SE. WHEN HE TRIED TO ARGUE THAT HE DID NOT CONTROL HADDAD, I AGAIN SAID THAT NO ONE OUTSIDE OF JERUSALEM WOULD EVER BELIEVE THAT. I ALSO SAID THAT IF THE LEBANESE INSISTED, AGAINST OUR BEST ADVICE, ON TAKING
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 JERUSA 02126 031556Z

THE ISSUE TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL, WE COULD NOT POSSIBLE DEFEND THE ISRAELI POSITION AND THE DIPLOMATIC CONSEQUENCES WOULD BE TERRIBLY UNFORTUNATE FOR ISRAEL.

5. I WOUND UP BY AGAIN URGING HIM TO USE THE AUTHORITY THAT I KNEW HE POSSESSED OVER HADDAD TO PERSUADE HIM TO ACCEPT THE SORT OF DE FACTO SITUATION HE CURRENTLY ENJOYS AS SATISFACTORY, AND NOT TO INSIST ON SOMETHING THAT BEIRUT CAN CLEARLY NOT BRING ITSELF TO DO -- NAMELY, FORMALLY REINSTATING HIM IN HIS COMMAND.

6. WEIZMAN, IN A GREAT STATE OF REJECTION AND WORRY, SAID HE WOULD HAVE ANOTHER GO AT HADDAD AND WOULD BE BACK IN TOUCH WITH ME IN AN HOUR OR SO.

7. COMMENT: I THINK WE ARE GETTING CLOSER. BUT WE MUST HAVE SOMETHING MORE OUT OF BEIRUT AS WELL. IN WEIZMAN'S TYPICALLY UNDIPLOMATICALLY FRANK COMMENTS, THERE WAS CLEAR EVIDENCE OF THE HEART OF THE QUESTION FOR THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT: HADDAD IS ON THE POINT OF THROWING IN THE SPONGE, LEAVING THE ENCLAVES, AND REMOVING HIS LEADERSHIP FROM THE PICTURE. FOR THE GOI, THIS WOULD CLEARLY BEING A RAPID PROCESS OF UNRAVELLING FOR THE SECURITY STRUCTURE THEY HAVE LABORIOUSLY PUT

IN PLACE ALONG THE BORDERS SINCE THE COMPLETION OF "OPERATION
LITANI" IN MARCH.
NEWLIN

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY PERSONNEL, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, PERSONNEL SEPARATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978JERUSA02126
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780318-0486
Format: TEL
From: JERUSALEM
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197808103/aaaadipy.tel
Line Count: 119
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 771b0358-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 78 BEIRUT 4474, 78 TEL AVIV 9877, 78 JERUSALEM 2104
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1550653
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOUTH LEBANON - HADDAD'S DEMANDS AND WEIZMAN'S RESPONSE
TAGS: MILI, PORG, LE, IS, US, UNSC, (HADDAD, SAAD), (WEIZMAN, EZER)
To: STATE BEIRUT
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/771b0358-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014